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Suggestions for the improvement of this work are respectfully solicited.

Orders for COPIES, and for ADVERTISEMENTS may be sent to the Agents at the various Ports, or to the Office of

"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" PUBLISHERS, HONGKONG, Hongkong, 16th January, 1894.

Intimations.

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London Office, 8, Fenchurch Buildings, E.C.

Hongkong, 26th January, 1894.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1894.

TELEGRAMS.

FRANCE.

London, March 20th.

Senator Boulanger has been appointed to the newly created post of Colonial Minister.

PARLIAMENT.

The Times states that it is regarded as certain in the best informed Radical circles that Parliament will be dissolved in July.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

Discussions have arisen in the House of Commons over the Navy Estimates. Sir Wm. Harcourt stated that the supremacy of the Navy is the greatest element of peace, and that once attained would enable Great Britain to hold aloof from European combinations.

OBITUARY.

Louis Kossuth, the Hungarian patriot, who was born at Buda Pesth in 1802.

THE PROPOSED BRITISH DOLLAR.

A telegram was received from Singapore this afternoon, stating that the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, at a general meeting to-day, decided (by 17 votes to 5) in favour of concerted action with the Hongkong Chamber to support the proposal for the coinage of a British dollar. Purchases of Mexican dollars were impracticable yesterday in the London market, as none were offered for sale. The same state of affairs existed in America. In Shanghai the dollar advanced from 11s. 7d. per 100 (on March 18th) to 11s. 7d. 1/2 (on March 19th), or a rise of one and seven-tenths per cent.

FOCHOW RACES.

(Special to the Hongkong Telegraph.)

The following are the results of yesterday's racing:

THE PACODA CUP; value \$200; second pony to receive \$15; for all *bona fide* griffins at the date of entry, and ponies first raced in Fochow or Amoy as griffins; weights as per scale; winners at this meeting 10 lbs. extra, of two or more races 12 lbs. extra; entrance \$5. Seven furlongs.

Booby 1
Santa Cruz 2
Roulette 3
Time 2 mins.

THE CONSOLATION CUP; value \$100 with \$25 added for the second pony; for all *bona fide* beaten ponies that have run at this meeting and not won a race; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

Autocrat 1
Congo 2
Flashlight 3
Time 2 mins. 15 sec.

THE CHAMPION STAKES; of \$10 each with \$50 added; a forced entry and open only to the winners at this meeting, optional for the winner of the Hack Saddle and Consolation Cup; winners of two races \$15 extra and of more than two races \$25 extra; weights as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

Autocrat 1
Recovery 2
Buccara 3
Time 2 mins. 50 sec.

THE WELTER PLATE; value \$100; for all China ponies; catch weights over 11 stone 7 lbs. Non-winners at this meeting allowed 7 lbs. extra. Three quarters of a mile.

Autocrat 1
Woodman 2
Ernak 3
Time 1 min. 39 sec.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

"TO-MORROW being Good Friday and a public holiday, there will be no issue of the Hongkong Telegraph."

"THE MAIGESTRA" by the London Lyric at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, to-night at 9 o'clock.

The French gunboat *Viper*, with M. Pavle on board, arrived at Bangkok from Haïlen on the 10th inst.

The gross revenues of the British railways last year were the largest on record. They reached £8,093,040.

ADMIRAL TING, in the *King Yuen*, accompanied by the *Ching Yuen*, left Singapore for Penang on the 12th inst.

SYNONYMS.—"I say, pa, what's a synonym?" "A synonym, my son, is a word we use in place of one we don't know how to spell."

It is estimated that the number of persons in Europe who have their lives insured form about two and a half per cent of the population.

It is reported that the arbitration between the Siamese Government and the Korat Railway contractor has been decided in favour of the latter.

LAURA (Interestedly): "They tell me you are engaged to seven men. Is it true?"

Ethel: "Oh, no, indeed. Only to four dudes, one scapegrace, your brother, and a man."

FOURTEEN promotions from the ranks were made in the British Army during January, mainly of those who could not get a commission by the usual system.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s royal mail steamer *Empress of China* arrived at Nagasaki at 6 a.m. to-day, and left again at 3 p.m. for this port, via Shanghai.

THE C. N. Co.'s steamer *Kowang*, which arrived here from Tientsin this morning, reports that the Peking River was clear of ice when she arrived at Taku on the 6th inst.

A REGULAR meeting of Victoria Lodge, No. 1007, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, this evening, at 8.30 p.m. o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

A BATAVIAN paper states that the recent lecture delivered by Dr. James Cantile on "Athletics in the Tropics" have been read with great interest by the Dutch people of that town.

In the figures given by the *Typh Shampo* are correct, 91,100 tons of rice were exported from Kobe last month, representing a value of \$2,167,167 yen. Larger shipments, says the *Kobe Herald*, are expected this month.

"Waiter," said Fogkins, "bring me some mushrooms."

"Single or double price?"

"What do you give with the double price order?"

"An insurance policy, sir."

According to investigations recently made by the Navy Department, says the *Official Gazette* of 6th instant, the total number of sea-going war vessels possessed by Japan on the 31st of December last, was 35. Of this number, however, seven are reported under actual service.

THE *Anti-Opium News* declares that the serious damage recently inflicted upon the Indian opium crop "is an answer to the prayers of an aged member of the Society of Friends, who, during the late three days' prayer meeting at Exeter Hall, several times publicly prayed that the crop might be blasted."

THE banging of tom-toms, kerosene oil tins, pots, pans and the family dust-pan, which made night hideous in the Chinese quarters of the colony until "cock-crow" this morning, was due to the fact that there was a partial eclipse of the moon under way last night and our credulous Celestial fellow-residents, fearing a demon was attempting to swallow the luminary, adopted this mode of scaring off the demons.

Only that and nothing more.

How to Extricate Contagious Diseases.—Twenty years ago, writes Dr. H. Beauregard in the *Paris Revue Pédagogique*, if any one had claimed that a day would come when there would be no typhus, no yellow-fever, no small-pox, no scarlet fever, in the world, his claim would have been regarded with a smile of incredulity. Yet, since the discovery of the microbe, there is nothing to prevent such a state of things being realized.

We can stamp out all these and like maladies by a strict application of the laws of hygiene. In some great cities they have introduced apparatus for sterilization, and organized a department of disinfection, but what is yet required is the instruction of the people on these subjects. No greater benefit can be rendered to humanity than to spread everywhere instruction, that by hygienic treatment of the body, of clothing, and of dwellings, all the serious maladies of which I have spoken can be stamped out.

H.M.S. *Linnet* left Bangkok, for a cruise, on the 10th inst. She was to have met the *Peacock*, due from Singapore, outside.

THE new Bombay-Japan liner *Asamor*, Capt. P. Gibson, R.N.R., arrived here to-day en route to Kobe with a good general cargo, chiefly cotton yarn.

THE shark is said to manifest a distinct choice for people of certain races, and will eat an Asiatic in preference to a negro and a European rather than either.

By a slip of the pen in a paragraph which appeared in yesterday's *Telegraph*, "Imperial Chinese University" was written instead of "Imperial Japanese University."

SHE (inquiringly)—"Married yet?" He (blithely)—"No." She (bitingly)—"How surprising!" He (nervously)—"Engaged yet?" She (delightedly)—"Yes." He (revengefully)—"How surprising!"

By the kind permission of Lieut. Col. Barrow and Officers, the Band of the Hongkong Regiment will play on Monday afternoon, 26th inst., at the Hongkong Rifle Association's Easter meeting.

THERE is an old Gaelic proverb full of force: "Choose a good mother's daughter, though her father were the devil." And another, quite as good: "Choose your wife as you wish your children to be."

THE Scottish Oriental Co.'s *Para Chula Chom Kiao*, which arrived here from Bangkok to-day, carried the British 4-masted barque *Alghamstan* to the 26th inst., from Hongkong to Bangkok, 5 miles west of Palo Obi.

THE *Sham Observer* learns that serious faction fights between the coolies employed on the railway have occurred at Pak-piao and other places, and many have been wounded. A number of houses were also burnt down.

AT the Chicago Exposition the Italian exhibitors sold \$2,500,000 worth of carriages, porcelain and bronzes. Germany's sales amounted to \$1,500,000. France, England, Austria and Japan sold about \$1,000,000 worth each and Russia and Spain about \$750,000 each.

Mrs. O'Malley—An' what do your daughter Mary be doin' now?

Mrs. O'Malley—She do be lamin' the serpentine dance.

Mrs. O'Malley—Faith! wid your ole man seedin' asked 'em 'arry when I'm tem it's a happy lile ye'll find, Mrs. O'Malley.

BEFORE Mr. E. Wilde, Austrian Consul General at Bangkok, an enquiry was opened on the 12th inst. into the alleged murder of a Burmese British subject by an Austrian, at Chantaboon. Mr. French watched the case for the British authorities. The *Siam Free Press* states that the enquiry was strictly private, reporters being refused admittance.

THE new bridge across the Missouri river at Omaha, Neb., is 1,620 feet long and has a draw span of 320 feet, the longest in the world. It is a combination railroad and wagon bridge.

Officials of the Union Pacific concede that the new company will get a considerable share of the business that has been going over the Union Pacific bridge.

It may not be generally known that the Bank of England note is not of the same thickness all through. The paper is thicker in the left-hand corner, to enable it to take a better and sharper impression of the vignette there, and is also considerably thicker in the dark shadows of the centre letters and under the figures at the ends. Counterfeit notes are invariably of one thickness.

THE *Mahachakri* left Bangkok 1st Koh-Lo-Chi on the 10th inst., taking the King and many members of the Court. As his Majesty is in a delicate state of health it is contemplated to steam about the Gulf during the night and anchor at points near the coast by day, in order to obtain the full advantage of the prevailing breeze. The Court will probably return in about twelve days.

THE list of the shareholders in the British South Africa Company now lying in the Library of the House of Commons brings out an curious result. A great number of the shares are now held in other countries. The majority of the shares sold by original holders were purchased for investors in France, Germany, and Holland, and it is estimated that nearly one-half of the total shares are actually held abroad. This is a fact of considerable importance in view of the fact that the company is not merely a Trading Corporation, but a body exercising rule and authority over vast territories in South Africa.

THE first cargo of Langkat oil landed here on the 10th inst. found a ready sale at \$5.50 per case, a price which will result at no very distant date in a large trade in this line. The exporters of this oil, the Koninklijke Nederlandsche Maatschappij ten Exploitatie van Petroleumbronnen in Nederlandsch-Indië, are now turning out upwards of 40,000 cases a month, to meet the brisk demand for their product in Java and the Straits Settlements, where it is becoming very popular on account of its brilliancy, freedom from smoke and cheapness as compared with the well-known American brands of kerosene oil.

OWNING to the contradictory reports circulated regarding the Mergui Pearl Fishing Industry and the incorrect statistics rendered by private licensees, the Burma Government has secured the services of Mr. Smyth, of the Department of Mines, Siam, to investigate and report on this industry. Besides three European Companies, there are several private individuals fishing for pearls and coral in the Mergui Sea, and population in these hitherto neglected islands, concessions were granted on very easy terms, for a period of 3 years only, but since the cry was made for roads and other improvements, it has been decided to raise the royalties. *Indian Engineer* says that of the 60 pumps now working about 30 belong to the Mergui Pearl Fishing Company, who although they employ Australian divers, have so far worked profitably, while the others, who employ Malay labour, are not so fortunate.

FROM THE *Ram's Horn*—

It is hard to convince a dyspeptic that the world is growing better.

Every sensible man you meet will admit that he was a fool last week.

One of the best helpers the devil has on earth is the hypocrite in church.

The love that is dumb until it speaks on a telephone doesn't say much for the body.

No man who is celebrated for his piety whose religion is all in his head.

Tempting a child to do wrong is as much as sin as shooting at a man with a gun.

Some men who start out to set the world on fire give up at the first thunder clap.

There is no place in the Bible where God has promised to make a loser happy.

Unless a Christian's walk corresponds with his talk the law has to say to the better.

Most Christians are willing to do great things for God, while few are willing to suffer.

There are men who go to a symphony for amusements while their wives are sewing the wood.

THE Hongkong Polo Club's Sky Meeting is fixed for Saturday, the 7th proximo. Entries to be sent to Mr. F. H. May, at the Hongkong Club, close at 5 p.m. on Saturday, the 31st instant.

PROFESSOR KOCH will shortly publish a comprehensive work on the improved method of using tuberculin and the diagnostic properties of tuberculin for the recognition of tuberculous in its first stages.

WE understand that by special instructions from Peking, no more foreigners will be engaged for the outdoor staff of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs. It is intended, we believe, to recruit this branch from Chinese subjects.

THE better the day the better the deed! From to-morrow onwards the shareholders in G. O. Fenwick & Co., Ltd., are to ignore Jos-pidgig, hot cross buns and all religious fast and feast days, and as a start off on the new lines mapped out for them they will hold their fifth ordinary general meeting in the Hongkong Hotel at noon to-morrow, Good Friday.

THERE is a tombstone in the north of England which bears the following epitaph:—

Sacred to the memory of
The Rev.
Who, after twenty years' unremitting labor as a missionary, was accidentally
shot by his Kinsman.
"Well done, thou good and faithful servant!"

AN old story is going the rounds again of a celebrated Indian potentate who took an English peer, who was staying with him, out shooting. The peer shot very badly, and the Eastern prince was sorely puzzled to combine Oriental compliment with empty game-bags. At last, with a low bow, he said "Your Excellency shot splendidly, but God was very merciful to the little birds!"

WEAR is this disease that is rapidly coming on us—a sirocco from the deserts of Arabia, or water famine or both? For some weeks the Water Authority has had the colony on short commons and now it is notified that "on and after the 24th instant, until further notice, the water will be turned on each day between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. only." Let up pray—for rain.

THE slowness of Parliamentary action is amusingly illustrated by a story that is told in a home paper of Father Healy, a well-known parish priest in Ireland. The other week an ardent politician asked his reverence—"What d'ye think now, Mr. Healy will be in the Irish Parliament—Lord Chancellor, Attorney General, or what?" "Shure," replied the father, "he will be a very old man."

THE second meeting of residents interested in the establishment of a grant-in-aid school at Kowloon was held at the Kowloon Hotel yesterday evening. The proceedings were of a semi-private nature, but the Chairman vouchsafed the information that Messrs. D. Gillies, H. J. Holmes, G. Wilson, G. J. E. Sayer, A. G. Aiken, and H. S. Cooke (Hon. Sec.) had now consented to act as a provisional committee.

A PROCESS has been invented and is in use at the Mint in Birmingham for washing smoke. The smoke is pressed out of the chimney into a tank of water, where it is literally washed and then allowed to escape through the chimney.

The smoke comes out of its bath as clean, white vapor, the carbon which is washed from the smoke tanks to the bottom of the tank and is used in the manufacture of ink and paint, while the wash water is a valuable disinfectant.

A COOGLIE was loitering about Kennedy Road in a very suspicious manner on the 17th inst., and attracted the attention of a petty officer from H.M.S. *Porpoise*. The cooglie sneaked up behind a Portuguese girl, but bolted on noticing that he was being watched. He was captured and brought before the Magistrate to-day, when, being unable to find security for good behaviour, he was sent to goal for six months. No doubt he is one of the men who have lately made Kennedy Road positively dangerous.

A FRENCH physician who has been for some time engaged on a study of marriage statistics in order to ascertain what professions and callings carried on by men are most acceptable to women, has arrived at the conclusion that actors, who have 99 chances in 100, head the list—actors who are comedians, that is; for tragedy is low down, its exponents standing but 20 chances in 100. The military profession is a good second, at least, where that romance is not dead.

Artists do very well; literary men, especially dramatists and novelists, are rather in the shade, and as for bankers, we learn to our surprise that chances of success are rated at 2 per cent. But surely these must be bankers with very small balances!

LOCAL news appears to have followed in the footsteps of the now absolutely extinct Mos, for it is positively non-exist—not even a tea, I.O.C.T., or Postman meeting to report. Of course this sort of thing won't last long; it is probably merely the calm which usually precedes a storm.

WE have been busy enough lately with the *Hongkong Pilot Fish*, *Tanaka*, and *Long-tongued Man* Mo Temple processions, the *Sau-sau* experiments in the noble art of guerrilla warfare and finally *Rob Roy* to find a modicum of time, then, that after such a plethora of exciting events a merciful Providence has intervened to cause a much needed respite.

But for this we should have felt bound to send our O.G.s to the biggest joss-house in town to-morrow to join in the response "Give peace in our time, Good Lord."

COMPARATIVELY few people, says a writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, know what a large amount of water the human body consists of. A man weighing 200 pounds is made up of 120 pounds of water and 80 pounds of solids. The latter includes bones, muscle, etc. Even the fat of the body contains 15 per cent of water; the liver is made up of 65 per cent, and the blood of 83. The skin contains 72 per cent, the brain 75, and muscle 75. It may be naturally supposed that a field so universally distributed throughout the body must constitute a very important article of its existence. Recent experiments have shown that on water alone life may be sustained as long as fifty-five days, whereas if dry food only were given, death would ensue in a quarter of that time, and this in a most agonizing way. The terrible agony that shipwrecked mariners sometimes suffer in this way will induce them to drink sea water, and this adds a hundredfold to the unaccountable thirst that induces delirium and death. With regard to drinking water, the present is that, which comes from deep springs or deep wells, where the access of surface water is guarded against, or from lakes at high altitudes. These waters, as a rule, are very palatable. The most dangerous waters to drink are those that are stored in the form of rain water, or surface water, running over cultivated lands, as these absorb all the impurities that they come in contact with. River water is always dangerous, as it invariably becomes contaminated with sewage. Water from shallow wells absorbs surface dirt and may be always considered utterly unfit for drinking purposes.

A CHINESE blacksmith was caught by Inspector Bremner trying to hang himself from a tree on Morrison Hill yesterday evening. The man was brought before Mr. Williams, police magistrate, to-day, and pleaded that he was very poor, and wanted to go back to his native place in Kwang-tung; failing that, he wanted to go to heaven. His Worship made an order to pay the man's passage out of the poor-box, but did not specify in which direction.

A YOUNG physician of this city, says the *New York Herald*, is engaged to a very estimable young lady, and is permitted

